THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Thursday, the 20th March 1952.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 12 noon, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Overloading of carts drawn by men.

* 90 *Q*.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state what steps have been taken to enforce provisions in the Madras City Police Act relating to overloading of carts drawn by men and in how many instances the provisions have been enforced since the amendment became part of the main Statute?

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) :—" In order to enforce the provisions of section 71-M of the Madras City Police Act relating to the overloading of carts drawn by men, necessary by-laws were framed by the Government under section 78 of the Act and published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* in November 1948. A Press Note was also issued by the Government in February 1949 drawing the attention of the public to the by-laws that had been published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* and also specifying the main provision in Section 71-M of the Act and in the by-laws.

" In actual practice, when officers of the Traffic Police and of the Law and Order Police see a handcart which appears to carry more than the maximum laden weight, they stop the cart and take it to the Traffic Office for weighment. If the weight is found to exceed the laden weight permissible under section 71-M of the City Police Act, the pullers, as well as the persons employing them, are charged. Altogether seven cases have been charged hitherto under section 71-M of the Madras City Police Act, and all those cases ended in conviction."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know whether these traffic police officers are provided with the necessary weighing machines for weighing these carts? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI :—" Weighing machines are provided at certain places to which the carts are taken for weighment."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I do not know whether I heard the Hon. Minister correctly. Did he say that even the persons employing the handcart pullers were punished? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI :—" Yes, Sir."

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Recommendations of the Marjoribank's Committee.

* 91 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what the recommendations of the Marjoribanks' Committee, 1937, were;

(b) whether those recommendations have been endorsed by the Land Revenue Reforms Committee;

(c) whether a Land Revenue Bill to give effect to the recommendations of the Marjoribanks' Committee as modified by Government was prepared as far back as 1939; and

(d) whether the Government propose to give effect to the principle of standardization of rates suggested by the Land Revenue Reforms Committee to give immediate relief to certain districts and areas in the State which have been paying enhanced rates?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The answer [a] is placed on the table of the House."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"With reference to the answer to clause (d), may I know when the matter was referred to the Board of Revenue, whether any report has been received from them and if not, whether the Board are being asked to expedite the matter so that the Government may come to a decision?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The report of the Board of Revenue has since been received."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"In view of the fact that there is now a fall in prices, and that any enhancement on the basis of increase in prices will not be effective, will the Government pass the necessary orders, so that by executive orders if possible, the principles pointed out by these two committees could be given effect to at least from the next fasli?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The matter will be considered, Sir."

Resettlement rates in the districts mentioned in the second report of the Land Revenue Reforms Committee.

* 92 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether and from what fasli the resettlement rates came to be enforced in the districts mentioned in Schedules A and B in Appendix X of the Second Report of the Land Revenue Reforms Committee; and

(b) whether it is proposed to give relief to these areas either by executive orders or legislation at least in the immediate future as suggested by the Land Revenue Reforms Committee?

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 201-202 infra.